

REMARKS

New claims 55-66 are drawn from a selection of the original claims 32-54, with an elimination of the exclusion of cis-1,4-polyisoprene from the independent claim and the replacement of "liquid medium" with "latex." Support for the elimination of this exclusion occurs in numerous locations in the specification, notably the paragraphs under the "Summary of the Invention" on pages 5 and 6, which state that the invention applies to rubber materials in general and that materials other than cis-1,4-polyisoprene are merely preferred, and then only for certain embodiments of the invention. The replacement of "liquid medium" with "latex" also finds support in numerous locations of the specification and claims, notably original claim 7, which is now canceled. No new matter is presented in any part of this amendment, and Applicants submit that the inventions recited in these new claims are patentable for the same reasons that the claims in the parent and grandparent applications (i.e., co-pending application serial no. 10/357,639, filed February 3, 2003, and United States Patent No. US 6,569,375 B1, respectively, were deemed patentable. Should any matters remain that can be resolved by a conference, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



M. Henry Heines
Reg. No. 28,219

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 415-576-0200
Fax: 415-576-0300
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